RE. DEATH OF NINE GIRLS IN MADHYA PRADESH DUE TO CONSUMPTION OF CONTAMINATED WATER

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Madam, nine girls have lost their lives on the 26th November, 1991 in Nahar Kola village of Seoni Malwa tehsil of Hoshangabad district in Madhya Pradesh after consuming contaminated water. May I know from the Minister of Health whether any medical help was given to them after they consumed that water? What type of medical help was given? The Madhya Pradesh Government should take precautionary measures so that in future no such incident occurs. I request the Minister to take strong action against the Madhya Pradesh Government who have faltered on this count. We want the Minister to give us full details of the report so that we can discuss how it can be prevented in future. Once again I draw the attention of the House and the Health Minister to get the full details and place it before the House.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): Mr. Kapil Verma, she has permitted me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will permit you, Vermaji. (*Interruptions*). Let us practise to be televised properly.

RE. ANNOUNCEMENT OF POLICY MEASURES OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT DURING SESSION, BY THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): Madam Deputy Chairman, the other day, in this august House, my colleague Shri Chaturanan Mishra had raised an issue which had received wide support from all sections of the House, including the ruling party and that concerned the dignity, honour and privileges of this House in regard to policy statements. It is a very well-established parliamentary practice that when Parliament is in Session, the Government or its Ministers shall not make policy pronouncements outside the House. The right occasion, the right place, for making such announcements is Parliament. Now, unfortunately, it seems that despite the discussion which took place in this House that day, all the advice and admonition have fallen on deaf ears. I am referring, Madam Deputy Chairman, with a great deal of anguish, to the reported press conference held by the Minister of State for Surface Transport yesterday in which he has announced a new shipping policy and very important announcements including privatisation of the existing shipping companies, participation by foreign firms in their equity, chartering of vessels, etc. All these issues have been announced in terms of policy measures by the Minister of Surface Transport in a press conference which he held yesterday. Now, I want to ask through this august House and Madam Deputy Chairman, through you: Is this the manner in which Parliament should be treated? Is this the manner in which the dignity of the House should be bartered away? Is this the manner in which we should be reduced to total irrelevance? I am absolutely anguished, as I said. I am pained that this is not being taken note of by the Government and I would expect somebody from the Government to react to what has happened. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I want to raise an important matter. Thousands of people have died due to the earthquake in Uttarkashi. (*Interruptions*). ...crores of ruppees, on paper,. are expected to be spent on relief. But in fact, it has not reached the people at all. The people affected are starving.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are going to have a short-duration discussion on it.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: The relief stocks are being sold in the shops. (*Interruptions*).....had seen the stocks in the houses of officials and in the houses of public men.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vermaji, we are going to have a short-duration discussion on it. (*Interruptions*). Just a minute. Please listen. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: The Minister must get a report from the State Government and tell us the facts and assure

[Shri Kapil Verma]

us that proper reliefs will be distributed distributed to the people of Uttarkashi so that people may not die of starvation and cold there.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Verma, we are going to have a short-duration discussion. At that point of time also, you can raise this important issue. I am sure the Government will look into it. (*Interruptions*). Now, I have given my ruling. Please sit down. Now I am not listening to anything else. Please take your seats.

As for the matter which was raised by Yashwant Sinhaji, I will find out the details because it is a convention and tradition that any policy statement, while the Session is on, is no made outside the House. I will find out from the Minister wnat the details of it are.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM (Andhra Pradesh): The Minister of Parliamentray Affairs is sitting in the House, Madam, Let him react.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think we can ask the Minister concerned.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Let him react on behalf of the Govern ment.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you not satisfied with the reaction of the Chair? I think while I am presiding, I am senior enough.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA (Bihar): Madam, I would only like to add that we should be informed of what action you have taken.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I assure you that I will find out today itself. Okay?

श्री राम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदया, मैं आपका ध्यान एक बहु ही गंभीर समस्या की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं। महोदया, वह समयस्या है किसान जिसने इस देश के सम्मान और गौरव को बढ़ाया है। इस समय जब कि रबी की बुआई चल रही है उसको न तो खाद मिल पा रही है, न ही बीज मिल रहा है। प्रदेश सरकार यह कहती है केन्द्र सरकार नहीं दे पा रही है। वास्तविकता यह है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार अपनी ड्यूटी का पालन नहीं कर पा रही। इसलिए किसान के सामने जबर्दस्त संकट पैदा हो गया है। वह करीब 150,170,250 रुपये के हिसाब से यूरिया खरीद रहा है। ऐसे ही उसको बीज खरीदने पड़ रहे हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि सरकार जल्दी ही वहां पर बीज की व्यवस्था कराये और खाद की व्यवस्था कराये ताकि किसान बीज बो सके, अपना उत्पादन बढ़ा सके और देश को आने वाले दिनों में उत्पादन बढ़ा कर दे सके, विदेशी मुद्रा उसका निर्यात करने के पश्चात् कमा सके। इसलिए मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि सरकार किसानों की इस गम्भीर दशा पर जल्दी से जल्दी ध्यान दे और ऐसे कदम उठाये जिससे किसानों को राहत मिल सके, परेशानी से बच सके।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have to take up the Statutory Resolution.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओ ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। रेलवे के लोकोमोटिव रनिंग स्टाफ में से लगभग 1000 लोगों को बर्खास्त कर दिया गया। उनको रिइन्स्टेट करने के लिए पिछली सरकार ने फैसला लिया था। इस सदन में वर्तमान रेल मंत्री ने आश्वासन दिया था कि इस विषय को वह मंत्रिमंडल के अन्तर्गत ले जायेंगे और उसके बाद जल्दी ही कोई निर्णय लेंगे। मैं आपके जरिये सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि रेलवे लोकोमोटिव रनिंग स्टाफ के एक हजार कर्मचारियों के मामले में पिछली सरकार ने फैसला लिया था और जिसके बारे में वर्तमान रेल मंत्री ने इस सदन में आश्वासन दिया था कि इसे मंत्रिमंडल में ले जायेंगे और उसके बाद बहाली के आदेश करेंगे तो आप

इस संबंध में सरकार को व्यवस्था दीजिए कि कम से कम इस सदन में वह बताने की कृपा करें। (व्यवधान)

श्री प्रमोद महाजन (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदया, गये सत्र में मैंने एस०टी०डी० और आई०एस०डी० के संबंध में व्यापारियों की ओर से खासकर उपयोग करने वाले उपकरण के बारे में कहा था। आज मेरे पास यह एक टेलीफोन है....

उपसभापति: इसको मत लाइये यहां पर।

श्री प्रमोद महाजन: अभी जो हाउस में कार्ड बताया गया इसी तरह से यह टेलीफोन भी है।

उपसभापति: वह कार्ड भी मैंने बताने से मना किया इस हाउस में। कल को आप टेलीविजन ले आयेंगे, फिर अगले दिन आप गाड़ी ले आयेंगे। ऐसे नहीं चलेगा।

श्री प्रमोद महाजन: यह इंस्ट्रूमेंट मैं चेयरमैन साहब को और मंत्री महोदय को दिखाना चाहूंगा।

उपसभापति: आप चाहे चेयरमैन महोदय को दिखाये, मंत्री जी को दिखायें या मुझे दिखायें आप सेन्ट्रल हाल में जाकर दिखाइये। हम इसका डिमोन्स्ट्रेशन करा देंगे।

श्री प्रमोद महाजन: इसके बारे में मुझे केवल दो बातें कहनी हैं। यह इस प्रकार का इंस्ट्रूमेंट है जिसके कारण आई०एस०डी० और एस०टी०डी० कालों का रिसीव होना बंद होता है। यह इलेक्ट्रो मेकेनिकल एक्सचेंजेज पर चलता है। हमारे यहां से फोन करने के पश्चात् 60 सेकिण्ड में जवाब नहीं आता तो इसका उपयोग करके इन यंत्रों का उपयोग किया जा रहा है देश में और विदेशों में। जब तक दिल्ली में स्पीच रिवर्स न हो तो मीटरिंग शुरू होने का सिस्टम नहीं रखा है। अगर यह नहीं रखेंगे तो करोड़ों रुपयों का नुकसान होगा। दुर्भाग्य से आज खासकर विदेशों से टेलीफोन टेम्पर करके उसका तार तोड़ कर दुनिया भर में रैकेट चल रहा है। जिसमें न्यूयार्क का आदमी मुंबई के आदमी को फोन करता है और जिसके पास दूसरा टेलीफोन होता है...

उपसभापति: यह आप जरूर मंत्री जी को बोलिये।

श्री प्रमोद महाजन: मैं पांच सेकिण्ड में अपनी बात खत्म कर देता हूं। टेलीफोन करता है मुंबई का वह आदमी अपनी दूसरी टेम्पर लाइन से टोकियो और कान्फ्रेंस फेसिलिटी पर रखकर न्यूयार्क और टोकियो के बीच में बात होती है जिसको खब्सक्राइबर पे नहीं करता है लेकिन टेलीकॉम डिपार्टमेंट को इन्टरनेशनल सर्किट पर पे करना पड़ता है। मैं आशा करता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय इस ओर ध्यान देकर करोड़ों रुपये बचाने का प्रयास करेंगे।

उपसभापति: आप मंत्री महोदय को दिखा दीजिए। मुझे और चेयरमैन साहब को सेन्ट्रल हाल में दिखा देना। No, that matter is closed. I am not permitting anything. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam, you have to come to the rescue of the MPs. (*Interruptions*). I want the Government to investigate the matter and bring the people responsible for this racket to book. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have got the Statutory Resolution and we have to take that up. There are only three speakers. In fact, the time is only 13 minutes.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Madam, to save time, I am prepared to withdraw the Congress speakers.

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल (उत्तर प्रदेश): उत्तर प्रदेश का बड़ा अहम मसला है। (व्यवधान) नौकरी से जबर्दस्ती निकाल दिया गया। इनकी इंटेग्रिटी पर किस वजह से डाउट किया गया? (व्यवधान) वे कौन मुलाजमीन हैं? (व्यवधान)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is only one speaker from the Congress.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION SEEKING APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION UNDER ARTICLE 356 OF THE CONSTITUTION IN RELATION TO MEGHALAYA AND MOTION FOR REVOCATION OF THE PROCLAMATION—Contd.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Bijoya Chakravarty... (*Interruptions*). Mr. Afzal, this is not the way. We have certain procedure in the House. When I have gone to another business.... (*Interruption*).... It is for everybody. But we can't keep on... (*Interruption*)... I have not permitted. ... (*Interruption*) ...Now I have not permitted anyone. Don't argue. Please sit down Mrs. Chakravarty.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Assam): Madam, it is very unfortunate and painful that we are discussing the State of Meghalaya. I support the motion moved by Shri J. P. Mathur and oppose the Government's Statutory Resolution It is unconstitutional, it is undemocratic, it is unwarranted that the democratically elected Government of Meghalaya has been dismissed and that too on the basis of the report of the Governor which is also baseless because in the 57-Member Assembly of Meghalaya MUPP had got 31 Members and this the party proved on 8th October; as against 26 of the others, 31 MUPP Members cast their votes and it was recorded in the House. Even then, illegally the Speaker adjourned the House *sine die* On 12th of November, as all of you know, the Supreme Court issued a verdict that the Speaker cannot disqualify a Member of the Assembly Taking into consideration all the facts I appeal, through you, to the House and to the hon Minister concerned that the promulgation of President's rule should be revoked and that the democratically elected party and the Government there should be reinstated and that they should be allowed to function there. We have seen time and again that the entire north-eastern region is facing certain situations. I wanted an action from the Centre many a time. In Assam we have seen even the MLAs are not spared and that is happening in Meghalaya also. Despite having got an absolute majority, the MLAs were suspended and the House was adjourned. So I appeal to the House kindly to withdraw the President's rule and kindly to allow the MUPP to function as a legal Government there and restore democratic norms. Let democracy survive in the country. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Saurin Bhattacharya, not here. Everybody has spoken. Will you please reply, Mr. Minister? The debate is concluded.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Madam, I was listening to the speeches of my colleagues in the House on this topic. When I requested the House to approve the Proclamation issued by the President on the 11th October, 1991 under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Meghalaya, even though many of my colleagues from this side and that side irrespective of their parties criticised many of the political happenings in Meghalaya, I was very happy that nobody questioned why President's rule was promulgated because it was so clear from the report of the Governor that there was no other way open for any other person; that is why the Governor took that action. Madam, before I go further, I would like to make one or two observations about the scenario in Meghalaya.